

The McCook Tribune.

By F. M. KIMMELL.

Do elections elect?

Drop the election bill.

Pass a free coinage bill.

Give us the Australian ballot system.

There are 2,048 Alliances in Nebraska.

The income of Uncle Sam is \$890 a minute.

Chicago is agitating the question of a new postoffice.

There is very little in our politics just now that is heroic.

The Omaha Bee is still "stuck" on the Hon. (?) E. Rosewater.

There is plenty of money in the country, but it is in too few hands.

The Norfolk News describes Omaha as "the Kilkenny of the west."

Measures are on foot to clean out the pension agency rookeries of Washington.

The state legislature convenes, Tuesday. Here's to a long and acrimonious session.

Some laws, like macaroni, cease to command our respect as we come to know how they were made.

Free coinage is a plant of slow growth; but blossom it will, the gold bugs to the contrary notwithstanding.

Dr. M. H. DAUPHIN, for twenty years president of the Louisiana Lottery company, died Sunday, at New Orleans.

The annual report of Attorney General Leese is creating considerable comment, mostly of a favorable nature.

JANUARY 8—Jackson's day—will be observed with more than the usual eclat by our bourbon brethren, this year.

PERHAPS it is not so much that wealth is dangerous as it is that poverty is distressing and degrading.

The election bill has a boomerang attachment which may have to crack a few congressional nodules yet before they drop the unpopular measure.

The winter corn exhibit will be held at Lincoln, January 20th. The state board of agriculture will be in session at that time and have charge of the exhibition.

In speaking of Wade Hampton's successor-elect, the Hastings Democrat says: "The successor of Senator Wade Hampton in South Carolina is Colonel J. L. M. Irby. He is a gentleman, a democrat and a farmer. Good for S. C." And the Democrat might have added, "a two times murderer," but it didn't.

The Western Union Telegraph company has issued an order making a reduction on rates for messages of from 30 to 40 per cent. on business in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and New Mexico. The reduction went into effect yesterday, and will apply principally to non-competing points. This is an act of justice which has long been delayed.

The latest thing in the way of trusts is a grain drill combination. The manufacturers of harvesters, of threshers, and of drills have all formed leagues within the past few months for the purpose of regulating their output and controlling prices. It may be that the Farmers' Alliance has not come to stay, but it is likely to last as long as the conspiracies entered into by the protected industries to deprive the farmers of the rights and the benefits of a competitive market.

AGREE ON ONE POINT.

NEED OF MORE MONEY IS APPARENT.

Nebraska's Interests Certain to be Carefully Watched.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—It is quite probable that during the present session of congress a bill of some character will be passed for the purpose of increasing the circulating medium. The precise nature of such a bill cannot, as yet, be determined in view of the fact that a number of such measures are already pending. The advocates and supporters of these several measures, while differing upon many points, are nevertheless in substantial accord that legislation affording financial relief is what the country now demands. Such demands come from different quarters, and the precise nature of the relief desired is in some instances pointed out.

Primarily the object sought is an expansion of the circulation. It is proposed by many that everybody who has silver bullion shall be able to exchange it at the treasury for coin or paper dollars.

Objection to this measure is made by many upon the ground, among others, that the supply of silver is practically unlimited and that holders thereof are exceedingly willing to dispose of it at a price below that which the treasury would stamp upon the bullion.

This fact, in connection with the fact that American producers have no protection against an influx of foreign silver, in vast quantities, would, it is argued, render the measure entirely useless in so far as it aims to increase the quantity of currency. It is also insisted that another effect would be a wide separation between the value of gold and silver, a result which seems quite probable.

Under such circumstances there would arise perplexing questions in connection with the paper dollar. Would it maintain its value or would it depreciate? Any considerable depreciation in its value would be followed by a corresponding decline in the price of silver bullion. Many cogent reasons are given for the belief that the practical effect of some of the measures now pending before congress would be to force upon us a depreciated paper currency. It is contended that unlimited free coinage must result in sending gold to a premium.

While these and many other questions upon this subject are now claiming the attention of congress, we may hope that some wise measure may be adopted tending to promote a feeling of confidence throughout the country.

Certain it is that Nebraska is fully prepared to take care of her own interests. Her representation in the United States senate is a sufficient guarantee that her material interests are reasonably safe so far as that branch of congress is concerned. It is fortunate that, at this particular time, such men as Senators Paddock and Manderson can be permitted to voice the wants of Nebraska. The wisdom, experience and courage of these men have placed them prominently before the country as legislators of great ability.

The three men who now represent Nebraska in the house of representatives are also fully equipped for the consideration of any financial or other measures pending at the present session. It is a matter of no little regret that they are to soon surrender the positions they have so ably filled.

One of these men, Hon. G. L. Laws, of the Second district, was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Hon. James Laird, who so long and so ably represented that district. The soldier and the homesteader always recognized him as a valuable friend. His successor (Mr. Laws) has nobly carried on the work. His ability as an executive officer and his friendship for the frontier farmer were fully demonstrated during his career as register of the United States land office at McCook, Neb. There, as well as here, he has exhibited the same indefatigable industry. As a member of three of the most important committees in congress he has given abundant evidence of the fact that he is the right man in the right place. Outside of his congressional duties he is also a most faithful and effective worker for his constituents. When he has business matters to look af-

ter before the pension office or general land office it is sure to receive his personal attention. He evidently dislikes the slow and unsatisfactory manner of transacting such business through the mail, but goes in person and confronts the man whom he wishes to interrogate. With his characteristic jerk of the head he emphasizes each sentence until his hearer is thoroughly impressed with the idea that the man is intensely in earnest and that he is armed with a knowledge of all necessary facts. It has been truthfully said that when this man leaves his post at Washington, Nebraska will have lost one of its most valuable and efficient legislators.—Journal.

LUCK OF A NE'ER-DO-WELL.

The Early Life in Illinois of One of the New Congressmen from Nebraska.

From the Philadelphia Telegraph. I was talking to Judge Payson, the other day, about some of the astonishing things of the last election. "A few years ago," he said, "there lived on a place of forty acres adjoining that of mine at Pontiac a man who was known throughout that part of the country as a ne'er-do-well. Though his farm was hardly larger than a truck garden, it was more than he could attend to.

He planted his crops in the spring, let the weeds grow up in the summer, and there was nothing to harvest in the fall. In the morning, at noon, or at night, whenever they were any loungers about the corner store, he was among them. Shiftless and slow at all other things, he was a glib talker. He would tell yarns and talk about the problems of capital and labor, though he took no active interest in either. While he was discussing these problems at the store his wife was stuffing old hats and odd articles of discarded clothing in the windows to keep the cold winds away.

"In due time a mortgage was foreclosed, and his forty acres went at sheriff's sale. Gathering up his family and the few goods and chattels remaining to him, he moved on, and was soon forgotten by his former neighbors. He took up his home in Nebraska, and resumed his old habit of lounging about and talking of capital and labor. The present member of congress from the district within whose border he took up his residence was elected by a majority of about 6,000.

"When the formality of nominating a man to run against him, this fall, was gone through with, there was no one who wanted the honor of being beaten by him. They did not have time to spare for a hopeless canvass. But my neighbor had the time, so they gave the nomination to him. Thus he found himself with official warrant for talking about labor and capital. His voice was strong and he was in his element. The 4th of November came and the men in that district cast their votes. When those votes were counted it was found that my ex-neighbor had been elected to congress by a majority of over 10,000. He had made a gain of about 16,000 votes."

THE east opposes irrigation of western lands in the arid region because there are already enough farm lands in the country, and that more would cause overproduction, to the great detriment of eastern farmers. If this is true it is sad.—Kearney Hub.

BOTH Nebraska and Kansas are in a fair way to relieve themselves of the grievous burden laid upon them by the school book trust. Legislation may be expected this winter in their respective assemblies looking to a solution of the problem.

THE ministerial association of Lincoln have offered to do chaplain service to the coming legislature gratuitously, the regular salary to go to western drought sufferers.

A DAILY edition of the Hastings Democrat is promised at an early date. A spicy, newsy paper may be anticipated. The weekly is a sufficient earnest of that.

DOINGS AT A DISTANCE.

In England about eighty-seven peers are directors of public companies.

There is one society of boys and girls in England to protect animals which has over eighty thousand members.

Prize fishing is still carried on in the river Tay, in England, and some valuable jewels have lately been found.

It is the purpose of a company of capitalists to run a steamer on the Sea of Galilee, for which they have obtained a concession.

Jacob's well and the plot of ground surrounding it have been sold by the Turkish Government to the Greek church for four thousand pounds.

A DISTRICT in the central provinces of India is being ravaged by a pack of wolves, which have killed forty cattle-watchers, who were chiefly youths of both sexes from eight to sixteen years of age.

A SMALL estate in Lincolnshire which sold for thirty-one thousand dollars in 1870 and has since had two thousand dollars put into additional buildings, brought ten thousand five hundred dollars last week.

A GERMAN Lieutenant-Colonel has been deprived of his commission because in a recently published work he advises the public not to go to church, which he says is an antiquated institution not in accordance with modern science.

THE rate of wages paid to firemen on ships sailing from London is £3 15s per month on voyages up the Mediterranean to Australia and New York. To the Cape of Good Hope, Natal, China and India it stands at from £3 15s to £4 per month.

Nor long ago South Africa had to import all the coal she used, but now she mines all the coal she wishes for her own use and exports the surplus. The reason is that the coal fields of Natal have increased their output to a remarkable degree.

CLOCKS are out of favor in fashionable Parisian drawing-rooms; they suggest the hour of departure to visitors too openly. Still, as it is inconvenient not to know the time, fashion sanctions an old watch hanging on the wall, framed in an artistic drapery of antique brocade. The watch ought to be a family heirloom, the more old-fashioned the better.

THREE young soldiers near Warsaw returned from a debauch with blood on their clothes and the statement that they had beaten some one they did not know. At the same time a sergeant in their regiment was found murdered, and the three soldiers were tried, convicted and shot within twenty-four hours. The next day another soldier surrendered as the murderer.

KINGS AND QUEENS.

THE Queen of England's savings in round numbers are \$8,000,000.

QUEEN MARGHERITE, of Italy, is fond of smoking and is said to have declared that her cigarette is more essential to her comfort than any thing else in life.

EX-KING MILAN, of Serbia, is going to descend upon London in search of a wife early in the new year. Perhaps he may continue his journey to America.

QUEEN VICTORIA spends the two hours from eleven at night till one in the morning in reading or writing. Despite her late hours for retiring to bed she is an early riser.

KING HUMBERT of Italy has declined to ask Parliament for an allowance for the Prince of Naples, heir to the throne, who has become of age, because the National treasury is in a depleted condition.

QUEEN VICTORIA is now unable to take any walking exercise, and is more apt than heretofore to get chilled when driving. She regretfully acknowledges that she is able to do less and less every year.

QUEEN EMMA of Holland, who will be regent during the minority of the Princess Wilhelmina, has greatly endeared herself to the Dutch people by her domestic qualities. She has been a most attentive nurse to her husband, and is a singularly wise and devoted mother.

THE Queen of Italy is exhibiting a tendency toward stoutness, a state of things that is most unwelcome to her. To ward off this increasing corpulence she spent the greater part of last summer in long and exhaustive mountain tramps, which reduced her weight but used up the royal ladies who attended her.

ART TREASURES.

A GENUINE portrait of Columbus, painted by Lotto in 1501, has, it is claimed, been discovered.

THE Accademia dell' Belle Arte of Venice has bought from the Pericoli family of Rome four paintings by Carlo Crivelli which came from the d'Aste collection in Genoa.

THE drawings of one of the most famous Japanese artists, Hokusai, now dead, have been brought together by the London Fine Arts Society and placed on exhibition under its patronage.

At Cahors, France, a series of frescoes in good preservation has been found in the roof of the cupola of the cathedral. They represent St. Stephen being stoned to death, with a circle of eight prophets about the central figure.

THE famous Hindoo god, Lingham, is now owned by an English gentleman named Spencer, who paid thirteen thousand dollars for it at an auction sale in London in 1888. This curious relic stands but twelve and one-half inches high.

GERMAN papers report that a "Ecce Homo" in oil is now on exhibition at Stuttgart, which is giving rise to a lively controversy. Some connoisseurs maintain that it is the missing "Ecce Homo" painted by Albert Durer in 1512, while others stamp it as a spurious production.

ACCORDING to the Vevay (Switzerland) papers, a bronze statue of Neptune, in fine repair, has been found near the church of St. Clara. In 1777 the workmen on the restorations of this church unearthed a marble altar dedicated to Pan, the woodland god, or rather to a Roman equivalent of that deity.

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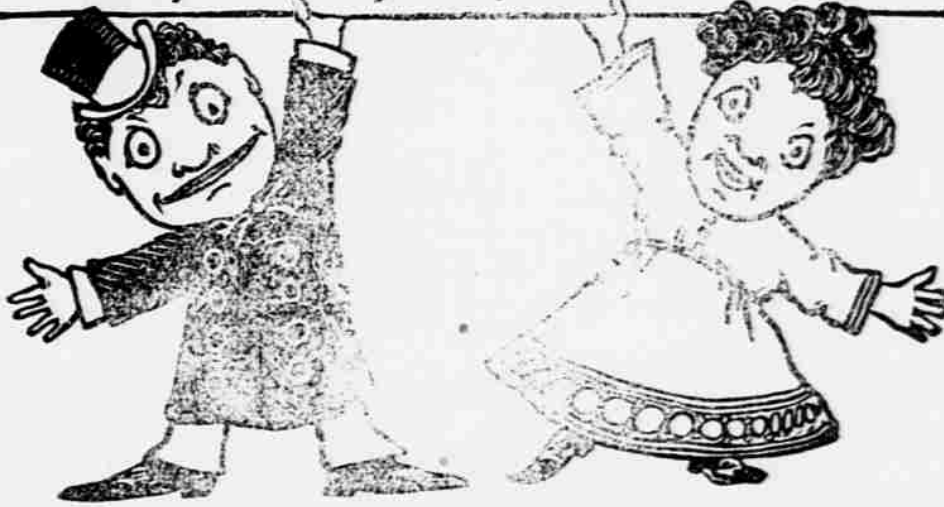
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